PROCEEDINGS
of
THE TRAVANCORE SRI MULAM ASSEMBLY

(OFFICIAL REPORT.)

THIRD ASSEMBLY

SECOND SESSION—1945/1120

Monday, the 19th February 1945/8th Kumbhom 1120.

The Assembly met in the Legislative Chamber at 12 noon with Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, K. C. S. I., K. C. I. E., LL. D., Dewan-President, in the chair.

NEW MEMBERS

The following members took the oath and signed the rolls :—

1. Mr. C. P. Gopala Panicker, (*Secretary to Government.*)
2. ,, N. Gopala Pillai (*Co-opted.*)
3. ,, P. Joseph John, (*Acting Electrical Engineer to Government*)
4. ,, B. K. Pillai (*Co-opted.*)
5. ,, C. Kumara Das (*Secretary to Government.*)
6. ,, K. Madhava Kurup (*Director of Registration.*)
7. ,, K. K. Narayana Iyer (*Director of Food Supplies.*)
8. Rajyasevapravina G. Parameswaran Pillai, (*Chief Secretary to Government.*)
9. Mr. S. Parthasarathy Aiyangar (*Inspector General of Police.*)
10. ,, N. Ramakrishna Pillai (*Legal Remembrancer to Government.*)
11. ,, S. Ramaswami Aiyar (*Accountant General in Charge.*)
12. ,, Dewan Bahadur L. Venkitakrishnan (*Chief Engineer.*)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Post war Reconstruction Committee.

1. *MR. K. A. MOHAMED (*Quilon* cum *Kottarakara*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the progress of the working of the Post-war Reconstruction Committee; and

(*b*) whether they have submitted any report to Government.

MR. C. KUMARA DAS (*Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) & (*b*) Four Sub-Committees have been constituted. Interim reports from the Sub-Committees have been received. Final reports are being awaited.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. K. A. MOHAMED: May I know the names of the committees that have submitted the final reports?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: No committee has yet submitted any final report: interim reports have been received from all the committees.

MR. K. A. MOHAMED: May I know the names of the different committees that have submitted their interim reports?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: All the Committees have sent up their interim reports.

MR. K. A. MOHAMED: May I know the period within which they should submit their final reports?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: No time has been fixed

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Thiruvella*): May I know whether the four sub-committees consist of any non-official members?

MR C. KUMARA DAS: Yes, Sir. There are non-official members.

Post-war Reconstruction Scheme.

2. *MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI (*Mavelikara* cum *Kunnattur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Post-war Reconstruction Schemes have been formulated by the Government; and

(*b*) whether the Government propose to do it in collaboration with the British Indian Government?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS(*a*) Tentative schemes have been formulated.

(*b*) Yes; as far as practicable.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: May I know whether the Government have considered the advisability of having one simple planning committee to consider all the Post-War Reconstruction schemes?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: There is a general Committee which goes into all the questions; sub-committees have to deal with separate subjects.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: What is the nature of co-operation that the Government expect from the British Government?

PRESIDENT: Order, order. As this is a matter on which I might throw some light, I might answer the question on behalf of the Government. The Government of India have constituted a Post-War Reconstruction committee and have invited representatives of the Travancore Government to serve on the various sub-committees. The most important of those committees is what is called the General Policy Committee of the Post-War Reconstruction Committee. That committee deals with the report of all other committees, both interim and final. On that General Policy Committee three Indian States have received representation—Jaipur, Mysore and Travancore. I happened to serve on that committee. The Government of India have also nominated another committee for the purpose of dealing with Public Works and Hydro-Electric development. Two Indian States have been asked to be represented on that committee. I happen to serve on that committee. The Government of India further constituted a committee for dealing with shipping. Three Indian States

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

have been asked to be represented on that committee. I happen to serve on the shipping committee. The Government of India have also constituted a Central Board of Education for the purpose of dealing with all the Educational problems that will arise at the end of War. Four Indian States have been asked to be represented on that committee—Hyderabad, Mysore, Baroda and Travancore, and I serve on the Central Board of Education also. Further, the Fisheries Committee has been appointed by the Government of India and Dr. John represents the Government of Travancore on that Committee. It is expected that in a few more committees also this Government will have representation. In addition to this, it has been stated by me before the General Policy Committee and the various other committees that this Government will go on with their investigations and enquiries in so far as they relate to the State, irrespectively of the pace and the progress of what may be done by the Government of India, although from time to time and at all times, we shall be only too glad to receive the fullest co-operation from the British Government. As a matter of fact, we have made offers to the Government of India in certain investigations and in certain Post-War Reconstruction schemes on the basis of sharing control. That is the position with regard to Post-War Reconstruction.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: May I know what advance those committees have made as far as Travancore's developments are concerned?

PRESIDENT: The advance that has been made by Travancore may be compared with the advance that has been made by the other Provinces and the Central Government after these committees were appointed. The Committees have been appointed not to make an 'advance' but to make programmes for the future development of various matters that are of importance to the country. No "advance" as such is within the ambit of the Post-War Reconstruction Committee either of the British Government in England or of the Indian Government at the Centre or of the various Provincial Governments.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: What is the nature of co-operation in which the non-official bodies can come?

PRESIDENT: Order, order. Co-operation will be welcome from every non-official body and every non-official. Any suggestion that the non-officials may desire to make for the consideration of the Government will be welcome and definite proposals will be put forward before the respective Post-War Reconstruction committees either of the State or of British India as the case may be. In addition it is the intention of this Government to place the the final reports of the Post-War Reconstruction committee with the preliminary or provisional decisions of the Government on those final reports for discussion before the two Houses of Legislature, and final action will be taken only after ascertaining the ideas and desires of the two Houses of Legislature.

State Congress Conference.

3 * **MR. K. A. MATHEW** *(Tiruvalla)*: Will the Government be pleased to state the reasons for banning the entry of Mr. K. T. Bashyam of Bangalore into Travancore for presiding over the Meenachil taluk State Congress Conference held on 21st January 1945?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No order was passed banning Mr. Bashyam's entry into Travancore, but having been told that such an order would be passed he preferred not to take the risk of possible action against him. The policy of this Government has been and will be not to allow outside organisations or leaders to conduct political propaganda within the State especially in connection with a body with the antecedents and the present leadership of the Travancore State Congress.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: May I know from the Government the reason that prompted the Government for banning Mr. Bashyams' entry into Travancore, especially when the Government have been following the policy of inviting outsiders to fill several posts in Travancore?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: The question is absolutely irrelevant.

MR. K A. MATHEW: May I know from the Government whether any outsider who has recently been a State Guest here has expressed his views on political matters concerning Travancore?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: Not on political matters.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: May I draw the attention of the Government to the statement published in the "Malayala Rajyam" regarding that? May I also read portions of that statement?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: The present question relates to a different state of affairs and what the honourable member wishes to know forms the subject matter of another question. In other words, this supplementary question does not arise from the answer given to the present question.

PRESIDENT: I think I might clear the atmosphere by announcing the policy of Government in regard to this matter so that there might be no further controversy. The Government are not only willing but anxious to afford all the necessary facilities for the discussion and ventilation of public questions in the Press and in meetings and conferences convened by individuals or accredited organisations which follow policies and programmes designed in public interests—whether such policies and programmes are or are not in consonance with those pursued by Government. So long, however, as bodies like the Travancore State Congress are led or purported to be led by persons with the outlook of Mr. Pattom Thanu Pillai and Miss Anne Mascrene, Government cannot but regard them as subversive organisations committed to a policy of personal criticism and vendettas founded not on arguments and facts but on prejudice and long-continued and consistent desire to obstruct and hamper Government activities and to attribute base motives to Government. That is the policy of Government.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: May I at once try to repudiate the statement made by the President of the House? The President has not taken us into confidence, and the outlook of Mr. Pattom Thanu Pillai or of Miss Anne Mascrene.....

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: I raise a point of order,

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

PRESIDENT: Statements from the chair cannot be questioned. What was said was a definite statement from the chair announcing Government policy.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: Will the Government explain what they mean by the 'outlook' of the President of the State Congress?

PRESIDENT: Government, although they are not pledged, will say so. Certain individuals have been deliberately blackening the policy of the State and denigrating its work not only inside but outside the State and thereby bringing the prestige and reputation or attempting to bring the prestige and reputation of the State into disrepute. Prominent among those people—I do not wish to mention all of them,—are the present President and the present Secretary of the State Congress who are the worst among that group, and from that point of view and from their consistent propaganda designed to do discredit to this Government, this Government have definitely come to the conclusion that apart from all other things, as they are devotees of personal propaganda and personal vendettas, this Government will regard the organisations, so long as they are led by such people as subversive organisations.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: May I hasten to state that this statement is unacceptable?

PRESIDENT: No further questions will be allowed.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: Will the President explain the instances?

PRESIDENT: The honourable member has no right to proceed further on the matter.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: It seems to be the Government's ex-prate view of the Government.

PRESIDENT: It is the Government's definite view—ex-parte or in-parte. It is a matter for discussion outside the House.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: After having expressed our repudiation... ...

PRESIDENT: Honourable member is out of order and if he pursues in this track, I shall have to ask him to withdraw from the House.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: In view of the statement made by the Chief Secretary, may I ask the Government whether Dr. Moonje was here as a State guest and whether he expressed anything on Travancore political maters.

PRESIDENT: It is irrelevant.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: In the answer given by the Chief Secretary it was said that leaders were doing political propaganda. May I know whether Dr. Moonje has expressed himself on political questions?

PRESIDENT: I have already said that any statement on Political, Social and Economic matters might arise from the public. There is no objection to anybody who expresses his own views. I made that perfectly clear. It may be that views are expressed which Government may or may not share. For instance, Dr. Moonje has made his own statement. He is not considered a person coming within the ambit of my statement and therefore people like him can be allowed to go free. If, however, their statements fall within the ambit of

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly